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April 21, 2006

Certified Mail, Return Receipt Requested

Annie Eissler, FOIA Officer
Bonneville Power Administration
Mail Stop KDP-7
P.O. Box 3621
Portland, OR 97208-3621

RECEIVED BY BPA FOIA OFFICE THIS DATE: 04/25/06
DUE DATE: Requested refinement on scope 04/28
LOG # 06-022

Re: FOIA Request Regarding Okanogan Public Utility District, Methow Transmission Project

Dear Ms. Eissler:

This is a request for copies of documents pursuant to the Freedom of Information Act, 5 U.S.C. § 552, and implementing regulations, 10 C.F.R. Part 1004. This request is being made on behalf of People for Alternatives, Conservation and Education (PACE) and Methow Valley Citizens Council (MVCC), non profit citizens groups representing residents of the Methow Valley in Okanogan County.

For purposes of this request, "documents" means all information in whatever form it has been recorded or retained, including but not limited to: correspondence sent or received, memoranda, policies, telephone conversation notes, meeting attendance lists, meeting notes, maps, cost estimates, power usage data, agreements, contracts, electronic recordings, videotapes, etc. If you have documents that meet the terms of the request, but you believe they are not disclosable for any reason, please provide an explanation of any such determinations on your part pursuant to 10 C.F.R. § 1004.7(b).

Requested documents:

1. All documents concerning the need for, planning for, payment for, use of, environmental impact of, selection of alternatives for, or in any other way related to Okanogan County Public Utility District's Methow Transmission Project. The web site for the final EIS for this project is at

<http://www.okanoganpud.org/Methow%20EIS/Final%20EIS/Final%20EIS%20Home.htm>

We note that BPA does not appear to be included on the listed recipients of this document, Section 7. The scope of this request includes all documents concerning past, current and projected loads, reliability, and system needs in the Methow (including all substations west of Omak and northwest of Pateros), for both the PUD and for the Okanogan County Electric Cooperative.

2. Any updates, amendments or replacements of "Customer Service Policy" dated July 1984.

We believe many of the documents described in paragraph will be found in the BPA's Spokane office.

Please note that a similar FOIA was submitted to your office on March 30, 1999. Under FOIA # 99-034, your office responded by providing a number of documents. Those documents do not need to be provided again. If the request covers a voluminous quantity of data reporting material, we will be happy to discuss our needs in more detail. Please contact me by phone at your earliest convenience if any to the particular requests need to be revised pursuant to 10 C.F.R. § 1004.4(c)(2).

We request a waiver of the search and reproduction fees pursuant to 10 C.F.R. § 1004.9(a)(8); the request "is in the public interest because it is likely to contribute significantly to public understanding of the operations or activities of the government and disclosure is not primarily in the commercial interest of the requester." PACE and MVCC are non-profit public interest groups. They intend to use the acquired information to educate the citizens of the Methow Valley and customers of the PUD regarding the governmental processes for review of, and possible BPA participation in, the proposed Pateros to Twisp electric transmission line. The non profit groups intended use of the requested information meets every one of the criteria listed in to 10 C.F.R. § 1004.9(a)(8)(i)(A), (B), (C), (D).

MVCC has a newsletter, sample enclosed. PACE and MVCC have a proven ability to obtain extensive coverage in the press regarding the Methow Transmission Project. We are enclosing sample newsletters and press coverage. Finally, the information will not be used for commercial purposes.

Sincerely,

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Toby Thaler
Attorney for PACE and MVCC
(206) 223-4088, ext 4
tthaler@wflc.org

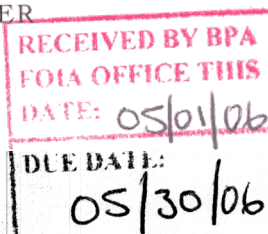
cc: Stephen J. Wright, Administrator
Randy Roach, General Counsel



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April 28, 2006

Christie Brannon, FOIA Officer
Bonneville Power Administration
Mail Stop DK-7
P.O. Box 3621
Portland, OR 97208-3621

06-022

Re: Clarification of April 17 FOIA Request Regarding Okanogan Public Utility District, Methow Transmission Project


Dear Ms. Brannon:

On April 17, I sent a FOIA request asking for:

1. All documents concerning the need for, planning for, payment for, use of, environmental impact of, selection of alternatives for, or in any other way related to Okanogan County Public Utility District's Methow Transmission Project. The web site for the final EIS for this project is at <http://www.okanoganpud.org/Methow%20EIS/Final%20EIS/Final%20EIS%20Home.htm> We note that BPA does not appear to be included on the listed recipients of this document, Section 7. The scope of this request includes all documents concerning past, current and projected loads, reliability, and system needs in the Methow (including all substations west of Omak and northwest of Pateros), for both the PUD and for the Okanogan County Electric Cooperative.
2. Any updates, amendments or replacements of "Customer Service Policy" dated July 1984. Mr. Joel Scruggs in your office contacted me to ask for a starting point date for request no. 1. In April, 1999, your office responded to a similar request, producing documents dated up to April 8, 1999. Therefore, please use April 9, 1999 as the start date for the current request.

Sincerely,

WASHINGTON FOREST LAW CENTER


Toby Thaler
Attorney for PACE and MVCC